The History of Mason and Dixon's Line, contained in an Address delivered by John H. B. Latrobe, of Maryland, before the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, November 8, 1854.

Mirana Elliot, or the Voice of the Spirit, by S.

Autobiography of Charles Caldwell, M. D., with a Preface, Notes, and Appendix, by Harriet W.

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HARPER'S MAGAZINE for September is a magnificent number, filled with superior engravings, and for sale at Shillington's book-

The great Illustrated Magazine of Art for September is one of the best that has been issued.

Leshe's Ladies' Gazette for September contains
all the new Fall fashions. The Knickerbocker Magazine for September. Godey's Lady's Book, Graham's Magazine, and

l'utnam's Magazine, all for September, received SHILLINGTON'S Bookstore,

THE FAILURE of Free Society.—Sociology for the South, or the Failure of Free Society, by George Fitzhugh. On sale at TAYLOR & MAURY'S

Book Store, near 9th street. TONE QUARRY.—I am prepared to furnish from my quarry, opposite the Little Falls and adjoining the quarry of the late Timothy O'Neale, any quantity of stone that may be needed for building purposes. Apply to the undersigned at his house on H, between 19th and 20th streets, in the First ward, or to Mr. Paine, at the quarry. July 27 WILLIAM B. SCOTT.

COMMENTARIES on the Jurisdiction Practice, and Peculiar Jurisprudence of the Courts of the United States, vol. 1, by George Ticknor Curtis.

Ticknor Curtis.

History of the Crusades, their Rise, Progress, and Results, by Major Proctor, of the Royal Military Academy.

Cumming's Lectures on the Seven Churches.

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REFERENCES. tion. J. C. Dobbin, Secretary of the Navy Hon. J. Davis, Secretary of War. N. Callan, esq., President of the Board mon Council.

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MATHEMATICAL DICTIONARY and Cyclopedia of Mathematical Science, comprising definitions of all the terms employed in Mathematics, an analysis of each branch, and of MATHEMATICAL DICTIONARY and Cyclopedia of Mathematical Science, comprising definitions of all the terms employed in Mathematics, an analysis of each branch, and of the whole as forming a single science, by Charles Davies, L. L. D., author of a complete course of Mathematics, and Wm. G. Peck, A. M., Assistant Professor of Mathematics United States Military Academy. Just published, and for sale at the Bookstore of R. FARNHAM,

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WASHINGTON SENTINEL.

VOL. 3. TRI-WEEKLY.

NO. 22.

CITY OF WASHINGTON, SATURDAY MORNING NOVEMBER 17, 1855.

WOOD GAS .- CAUTION. BE it known that I, the subscriber obtained letters patent in December, 1851, for an apparatus for the destructive distillation of wood, and the making therefrom of tar or pitch at pleasure, and gas; and that in the judgment of competent persons the invention of an appartus recently patented by W. D. Porter cannot be

competent persons the invention of an appartus recently patented by W. D. Porter cannot be used by him or any other person without infringing my said patent. And, further, that what is patented by said Porter rightfully belongs to me, as I expect to prove ere long before the United States Patent Office; and, further, that the use of said Porter's invention involves also a process which I am now claiming before the United States Patent Office, and which has been adjudged to be patentable to the first inventor thereof, and which said W. D. Porter has formally disclaimed, as appears upon the public records of said office, of which an official copy is hereto annexed, and also a copy of his claims.

In the National Intelligencer of the 25th instant Mr. Porter announces that he has secured by patent the "exclusive right to making gas from wood," and threatens presecution to all parties infringing his patent. I ask how this statement comports with the fact of my patent of December, 1851, and how far the threat can intimidate under such circumstances? Mr. Porter's claim is based upon a movable perforated disphragm, and was so understood by the Patent Office, as it appears from the records of the Patent Office that his claim was at first refused as interfering with a prior patent to Robert Foulis, of Canada, for an equivalent contrivance. This claim, as given below, and in which the perforated disphragm is the saving clause, is what Mr. Porter calls securing the "exclusive right to making gas from wood." The statement carries absurdity on its front, and is a libel on the good sense of the Patent Office If such a claim or right had been granted, it would forbid every coal-kiln and charcoal manufactory in the country.

in the country.

The following copies of correspondence and extracts from the records of the Patent Office will show the true state of the case:

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

United States Patent Office,
August 25, 1854.

Sir. In reply to your letter of this date, asking
"if any patent has been granted to W. D. Porter,
dated 22d August, 1854, or at any other time, or
to any other person or persons, securing to him
or them "the exclusive right of making gas from
wood," and whether any such claim was made by
W. D. Porter, under his application for a patent,
which letters patent were issued bearing the
above date, you are informed that W. D. Porter's
claims are believed to be c nined to his apparatus; and, further, this office is not aware that a
patent has been granted heretofore for the exclusive right of making gas from wood. It would,
however, be unjustifiable to expect me to make
an extended investigation to answer your rean extended investigation to answer your re-

uest.
I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. Mason, Commissioner of Patents.
W. P. McConaella, Esq.,
Care of Prof. C. G. Page, Washington, D. C.

The United States Patent Office—To all persons to whom these presents shall come, greting:
This is to certify that the annexed is a true copy This is to certify that the annexed is a true copy from the files of this office of an extract from a paper filed in the matter of the application of W. D. Porter for letters patent, in accordance with which application letters patent were issued to the said W. D. Porter on the 22d day of August, eighteen hundred and fifty-four.

In testimony whereof, I. Charles Mason, Commissioner of Patents, have caused the seal of the Patent Office to be hereunto affixed to be a control of the patent of the control of the patent of the control of the con

this 25th day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, and of the independence of the United States the seventy-math. C. Mason.

Copy of disclaimer of W. D. Porter in his application tion for "an improved still for making wood gas," filed August 5, 1854. Letters patent issued August 22, 1854.

"I do not claim as my invention and discovery the improvements in making gas from wood, viz: subjecting the products of destructive distillation from abroad with our domestic concerns, will therefrom to a high degree of heat, substantially as has been described and for the purposes set forth in the specification of W. P. McConnell."

The United States Patent Office—To all persons to whom these presents shall come greeting:

This is to certify that the annexed is a true copy from the records of this office of an extract from the specification of W. D. Porter's patent, issued in the twenty second day of August, eighteen hundred and fifty-four. testimony whereof, I, Charles Mason, Com

missioner of Patents, have caused the seal of the Patent Office to be hereunto n the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, and of the independence of the United States the from Specification of W. D. Porter on

which letters patent were issued August 22, 1854. CLAIM.—What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by letters patent is: consisting of a metallic or other cylinder B, the cones E and D, disphram plate C, and exit pipe F, substantially as described in the foregoing spe-

ngs."
The truth of the above may be ascertained from WM. P. McCONNELL

cification, and shown in the accompanying draw

By his attorney CHAS, G. PAGE. DOOR'S RAILROAD MAP OF THE UNITED STATES."-This celebrated Map, recently eulogized by Lieutenant Maury, in his "Virginia Letters," is on sale at TAYLOR & MAURY'S

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PROSPECTUS

"WASHINGTON SENTINEL." PROPOSE to publish in the city of Washington, in September, a political newspaper, under the name of the WASHINGTON SENTI-

NEL.

In doing so, it is proper 1 should make known the principles it will maintain, and the policy it will advocate.

It will support cordially and earnestly the principles of the Democratic party of the United States it does not propose to be the organ of any Depart ment of the Government, except in so far as an independent maintenance of the doctrines of that party may represent its opinions and express its

party may represent its opinions and express its views. views.

It will not be ambitious to commend itself to the people by a blind flattery of their rulers. It will seek public support by the bold avowal of the sentiments which are common to the genuine Democracy of the Union, and by the condemnation of all such as may conflict with them, from whatever quarter they may come. It will seek to be (and it will endeavor to deserve the title) the organ of the Democratic party of the United States.

The SENTINEL will maintain, as a fundaments truth of that great party, that the States formed the Union between them by the ratification of the Constitution as a compact; by which, also, they created the Federal Government, and delegated to it as their common agent, the powers expressly specified in it, with an explicit reservation of all others to the States, or to their separate governments. The exercise of any powers beyond these thus delegated, is, therefore, an usurpation of the reserved authority of the States by the agent of their own creation.

beir own creation.

The SENTINEL will uphold and defend the Union upon the basis of the rights of the States—under the Constitution—and thus by sedulously guarding the latter, it will the more effectually strengthen and perpetuate the former.

and perpetuate the former.

With regard to the exercise of the powers of the Feceral Government, the Sentinkl will take as the rinciples of its action, that Congress shall exercise no power which has not been delegated by the C. astitution, according to a strict and fair interpret tion of its language and spirit; and that it shall ne seek to attain indirectly an object through the exercise of constitutional power, for the direct attainment of which it has no delegation of power. In other words, all powers exercised must be clearly grated, and all granted powers must be used for no surpose, except such as is clearly intended by the Constitution.

In respect to the internal administration of the

In respect to the internal administration of the In respect to the internal administration of the Government, the SENTINEL will sustain the settled policy of the Democratic party. It will labor to inculcate this cardinal doctrine of Democratic in ternal policy:—that this Government will best promote the freedom and prosperity of the people of the States, by being less ambitious to exercise power, and more anxious to preserve liberty; and by leaving to the individual States the management of all their domestic concerns—while it contents itself with guarding the confederacy from external violence, and directing the foreign policy of the country to the promotion of the common interests, and defence of the common rights, and honor of the States composing it. honor of the States composing it.

The Suntinel will advocate such a progressive foreign policy as will suit itself to the exigencies, and correspond with the expanding interests of the country. That policy should be energetic and decided; but should temper firmness with liberality, and make its highest ends consist with the strictest principles of justice. The real interests of the country, upon each occasion demanding attention will be its guide in the course the Sentinel wil pursue.

The national policy of the world in this age is essentially aggressive. In the growing sense of weakness of some of the nations of the Old World, and the ambitious restlessness of others, a common motive to colonial extension has developed self.

tries, unless by their foreign or colonial policy our peace should be threatened, our security endan gered, or our interests invaded. For when the selfish interests of other nations prompt a foreign or colonial policy which infringes upon our rights, and places in the pathway of our commerce a dangerous and unfriendly rival, such a policy must be resisted by remonstrance, and, if need be, by

Our foreign policy should, indeed, be defensive Our foreign policy should, indeed, be defensive, but to be properly defensive, it must sometimes be apparently aggressive. Our administration should be vigilant, watchful, and energetic. The world is full of important movements, commercial and political, deeply concerning American trade and American power. It is time we had an American American power. foreign policy. We must have it. We cannot avoid it if we would. We have larger interests, and a greater stake in the world and its destiny, than every other people. We occupy the best portion of a continent, with no neighbors but a colony, and a worn-out, anarchical despotism. We are the olny people whose own land, without colonial defendencies, is washed by the two great oceans of the world. Our agricultural productions are more varied and more essential to civilized life, and te uman progress—our mineral and manufacturing resources more vast—our facilities and capacity for internal and foreign commerce more extended than those of any other people living under one government. A continent, to a great extent, un explored and exhaustless in its yet hidden wealth explored and exhaustless in its yet hidden wealth is at our feet. European trade seeks the great East through avenues which are at our doors, or must be made through our own limits. Europe, Asia, Africa, and the isles of the sea, lying all around us, look to us as the rising power, through the agency of whose example, and ever widening and extending, though peaceful influences, the bless ings of liberty, civilization, and religion, are destined to triumph over the barbarism and superstition of the millions of the world. And shall such a people refuse to lay hold upon their destiny, and act upon the high mission to which it is called? A mission so full of hope, though so laden with responsibility, which, if properly directed, must make our confederacy the harbinger of peace to the world, as well as the peaceful arbiter of its destiny.

The SENTINEL will, therefore, advocate a bole The Sentings, will, therefore, advocate a bold and earnest foreign policy, such as the condition of the country demands; but it will advocate it under the flag of the country—nowhere else. Its foreign policy must be consistent with the spotless honor and unimpeachable good faith of the country. To be respectable at home and abroad, and to be great in the eyes of the world, it must ask for nothing but what is right, and submit to nothing that is wrong. It must be liberal and magnanimous to the rights of others, and firm and immoveable in insisting on its own. It must, in fine, be true to insisting on its own. It must, in fine, be true to be false to those of other nations.

Such, then, is the chart by which we shall be guided. Independent and free, we shall endeavor to be honest and truthful. The true friends of democratic principles we shall cordially support and defend. Its enemies in the field or in ambush

To our future brethren of the press we extend the hand of friendly greeting. The Sentinel is the rival of no press of its own party—the personal enemy of none of the other. The present Democratic Administration has ou

est wishes for its success in the establishment of the great principles upon which it came into power and in its honest labors to attain such an end i will find the SENTINEL its friend and coadjutor.

ATER YEARS, ny the Author of "the Old House by the River."
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Wed'day. Feb. 7, 1855 | Saturday. Jan. 27, 1855

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March 6 Bookstore, near 9th street. OR RENT, till the 15th of November next, the large built house at the corner of 15th and K streets. Call at the "Sentinel" office.

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DROSPECTUS.—SOUTHERN CONSER-PROSPECTUS.—SOUTHERN CONSERvative Magazine.—When new aspirants for popular favor are announced, the public have a right to demand the grounds upon which such show of title to their patronage is made. In acknowledgment of this, we trace the customs of parties in the avowal of principles; of religious sects, in the promulgation of creeds; and of persons in all pursuits of life, dependent upon the public for success, in their preparatory expositions. sons in all pursuits of life, dependent upon the public for success, in their preparatory expositions of plans and purposes. The customs thus originating, though sometimes abused, are useful and proper, and should not be discarded. And when, in obedience to custom, new plans are proposed, those approving ought not to withhold their encouragement, as too many do, until they see that success is sure, for their aid may be needed to secure it. Such a foolish policy as this jeopardizes the plan they approve, and hastens its failure; it has defeated many important enterprizes, and has deprived the country of good and useful works. If a new proposition of any kind is approved by the public, the support of those approving is of right expected, their approval being solicited only in the view that their more substantial aid will not be withheld. not be withheld.

BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE PLAN OF THE PROPOSED PERIODICAL. THE SOUTHERN CONSERVATIVE MAGAZINE will occupy grounds but little cultivated by American magazinists. It is believed that a field is open for a periodical of a new and, in some respects, a higher order than has been simed at in our magazine literature. In this belief, and with such an aim, we announce the Southern Conservative

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It will be political, but liberal; owing no slavish allegiance to parties or politicians, it will advocate measures, not men, and will labor only for the success of principles.

It will be progressive, yet sternly opposed to

the reckless spirit of innovation so rife in the country—aiming to elevate and advance, not depress; to reform and improve, not to destroy; sacredly adhering to the true intent of our great republican theory, and laboring to advance it to

but will repudiate nothing foreign, merely because so; believing that the good, the useful, and true belong not, par excellence, to any favored people, but are the common right of all.

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tributed and editorial—reviews, political and acientific essays, romances, poetry, &c.

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The Southern Conservative Magazine will be issued, the first of each month, from the office of publication, Nashville or Knoxville, Tennessee, and will be furnished to suscribers at four dollars a year, or three dollars if paid punctually in advance. Publication will be commenced the 1st day of January, 1856. Address orders to the W. T. HELMS,

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expires on the 1st September next, on which day possession may had.

Also, that large three-story Brick House on 17th street west, (opposite the War Office, and three doors south of G street.)

Also, that three-slory House on 17th street west, next door to the Government Building, at the corner of F and 17th streets.

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that day at public auction.

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JAMES A. STORM.

Berkeley Springs, Morgan County, Va., July 1, 1855. July 18—tf.

PROSPECTUS

OF THE UNITED STATES TIMES, Weekly Newspaper to be published Washington City.

The undersigned, expecting soon to retire the position he has for some time held as Superin tendent of the United States Census, intends to devote himself to the control and management of the REVIEW, of which, for the last nine years, he has been the editor and proprietor, and to the publication in the City of Washington of a weekly newspaper with the above title. The material for this paper will consist, in part

of selections or extracts from articles admitted into the REVIEW, but mainly of other original literary, educational, industrial, and miscellaneous matters, including digests of the current events of the day, home and foreign; the proceedings of Congress and the acts of the Government; literary and scientific sketches and essays upon leading and popular topics; biographical sketches of public men; digest of official reports, State and Federal; the state of the markets in the several arge cities; the progress and prospects of crops; bition at the Metropolitan Mechanics' Fair, at the Smithsonian Institute, four superb Pianos, made ountry as shown by statistics, bringing down hose of the National Census always to date The object will be, through careful editoria

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